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Department of Public Health

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Montana State Board of Health

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HELENA, MONTANA

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TRADESMEN'S COUNCIL

HOW TO PREVENT TYPHOID FEVER.

In our last issue we gave the estimated cost of typhoid fever to the people of this State for two months. This estimate was based upon the number of cases of typhoid fever actually reported to the health officers of this State. All, or most, of the money expended for the care of those suffering from typhoid fever can be saved.

The first method by which typhoid fever may be prevented is so simple that people pay little attention to it, and yet it is the simple, little things that we neglect that cause most of our trouble.

A case of typhoid fever is invariably the result of another case of typhoid fever and the means by which the disease is transmitted from one person to another is through the agency of the excreta of the person suffering from typhoid fever. It is well a established fact that after a person has suffered from typhoid fever the germs will be found in the excreta, especially in the urine for many months, hence it is absolutely essential that the excreta of all human beings be taken care of in such manner that no part of it can possibly reach any other human being. This can be done in a very simple way. People must learn to use toilets. The indiscriminate disposal of excreta has resulted in many thousands of deaths. Not only must people learn to use their toilets, but the toilet must be properly constructed. A toilet constructed so that seepage therefrom can reach a well or other source of water supply is a danger to the community in which it is located. The water of the well may be perfectly clear and apparently absolutely pure, and yet may be thoroughly infected with typhoid fever germs, if a toilet is located so that the seepage therefrom enters the well.

Seepage from a water closet can be easily prevented by constructing water tight boxes which will receive the excreta. Evaporation will take care of practically all the fluid that enters the boxes. A small shovel full of slack

lime scattered over the contents of the boxes each day will result in the destruction of any disease germs that may be present. If this box is built on skids, it is a very simple matter to empty the box by hitching a horse to it and draw it to a convenient place when half or two-thirds full.

As I have said, this procedure is so simple that people pay little attention to it, and yet failure to observe it is the cause of thousands of cases of typhoid fever.

The prevention of seepage will not entirely prevent typhoid fever, if the toilet is so constructed as to allow flies to come in contact with the excreta they will become infected with typhoid fever germs and carry them to and deposit them on the food consumed by human beings. Hence, it is necessary that the toilet shall be constructed so as to exclude flies therefrom.

This is one of the simple means by which typhoid fever may be prevented, and it is enough for this issue. If the people will get this one point, the proper disposal of human excreta, into their minds, and observe it, much will be accomplished.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1908.

SMALLPOX—Cases of Smallpox were reported as follows: Cascade 4 (all in Great Falls); Flathead 1; Gallatin 28 (15 in Bozeman); Jefferson 4; Ravalli 4; Silverbow 18 (13 in Butte); Yellowstone 1 (in Billings); total 60; total last month 76; total last November 16.

DIPHTHERIA—Cases of Diphtheria were reported as follows: Cascade 6 (3 in Great Falls); Chouteau 7; Custer 8; Dawson 2; Deer Lodge 10 (9 in Anaconda); Flathead 13; Gallatin 1 (in Bozeman); Jefferson 3; Lewis and Clark 14 (6 in Helena); Madison 2; Missoula 14 (13 in Missoula City); Park 2 (both in Livingston); Rosebud 4; Silverbow 6 (5 in Butte); Yellowstone 3; total 95; total last month 70; total last November 145.

SCARLATINA—Cases of Scarlet Fever were reported

as follows: Cascade 19 (8 in Great Falls); Chouteau 1; Deer Lodge 7 (all in Anaconda); Flathead 3; Galatin 14 (12 in Bozeman); Lewis and Clark 9 (8 in Helena); Meagher 1; Missoula 8 (7 in Misoula City); Park 6 (5 in Livingston); Powell 5; Ravalli 3; Rosebud 9; Silverbow 74 (54 in Butte); total 159; total last month 92; total last November 54.

MEASLES—Cases of Measles were reported as follows: Cascade 1; Chouteau 1; Fergus 64; Lewis and Clark 1; Meagher 2; Park 4 (3 in Livingston); Yellowstone 1; total 74; total last month 70; total last November 7.

TYPHOID FEVER—Cases of Typhoid Fever were reported as follows: Beaverhead 1; Carbon 3; Cascade 12 (9 in Great Falls); Custer 5; Dawson 1; Deer Lodge 4; Fergus 4; Flathead 5; Lewis and Clark 1 (in Helena); Missoula 20 (all in Missoula City, 14 imported); Powell 2; Sanders 1; Yellowstone 5 (4 in Billings); total 64; total last month 146; total last November 125.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1908.

SMALLPOX—Cases of Smallpox were reported as follows: Cascade 1 (in Great Falls); Dawson 17; Fergus 1; Gallatin 10 (5 in Bozeman); Madison 2; Missoula 1 (in Missoula City); Park 1 (in Livingston); Powell 3; Ravalli 10; Sanders 1; Silverbow 15 (all in Butte); total 62; total last month 60; total last December 13.

DIPHTHERIA—Cases of Diphtheria were reported as follows: Carbon 4; Cascade 5 (4 in Great Falls); Chouteau 1; Custer 9; Dawson 1; Deer Lodge 2 (1 in Anaconda); Flathead 8; Gallatin 1 (in Bozeman); Jefferson 6; Lewis and Clark 8 (6 in Helena); Missoula 6 (3 in Missoula City); Park 5 (all in Livingston); Rosebud 2; Sanders 2; Silverbow 12 (9 in Butte); Sweetgrass 1; Yellowstone 2; total 75; total last month 95; total last December 101.

SCARLATINA—Cases of Scarlet Fever were reported as follows: Beaverhead 2; Carbon 2; Cascade 32 (24 in

Great Falls) ; Chouteau 1; Dawson 1; Deer Lodge 7 (all in Anaconda) ; Flathead 2; Gallatin 4 (all in Bozeman) ; Granite 1; Lewis and Clark 4 (all in Helena) ; Madison 4; Missoula 13 (11 in Missoula City) ; Park 11 (5 in Livingston) ; Powell 2; Ravalli 3; Rosebud 4; Sanders 1; Silverbow 54 (25 in Butte) ; Sweetgrass 1; total 149; total last month 159; total last December 67.

MEASLES—Cases of Measles were reported as follows: Carbon 1; Cascade 1 (in Great Falls) ; Chouteau 2; Deer Lodge 1 (in Anaconda) ; Fergus 36; Flathead 4; Gallatin 3 (in Bozeman) ; Lewis and Clark 4; Meagher 13; Park 3 (in Livingston) ; Powell 2; total 70; total last month 73; total last December 19.

TYPHOID FEVER—Cases of Typhoid were reported as follows: Beaverhead 1; Cascade 4 (all in Great Falls) ; Fergus 8; Flathead 1; Gallatin 8 (7 in Bozeman) ; Madison 1; Missoula 5 (all in Missoula City) ; Powell 1; Yellowstone 6 (all in Billings) ; total 35; total last month 64; total last December 27.

MORTALITY

Deaths Reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of
November 1908, Arranged According to Counties,

Deaths per 100,000; 132.4

Annual Death rate per 1,000; 11.03

Deaths reported from cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants

Anaconda	1	1	1	3	2	1	4	12
Billings	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	11
Bozeman	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4
Butte	14	1	1	3	4	5	6	18
Great Falls	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	64
Helena	2	1	2	1	2	3	5	17
Livingston	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Missoula	1	2	1	5	2	4	3	26

MORTALITY

Deaths Reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of December, 1908, Arranged According to counties

Death Rate per 1000,000; 114.6

Annual Death Rate per 1,000: 13.75

Deaths Reported from Cities of 5,000 or More Inhabitants.

BIRTHS.

Births reported to the State Board of Health of Montana for November 1908, and comparative birth and death rate in State.

	Males			Excess of Deaths			Excess of Births		Males	Females			Excess of Deaths
Beaverhead	4	3	7	7	.....				Meagher	4	1	5	5
Broadwater	3	3	6	2	4				Missoula	13	10	23	34
Carbon	19	8	27	17	10				Park	13	8	21	8
Cascade	18	26	44	21	23				Powell	2	3	5	6
Choteau	8	6	14	4	10				Ravalli	9	17	26	5
Custer	4	9	13	7	6				Rosebud	3	5	8	2
Dawson	8	4	12	3	9				Sanders .....	.....	.....	2	2
Deer Lodge	18	13	31	20	11				Silver Bow	65	44	109	81
Fergus	6	7	13	4	9				Sweetgrass	3	2	5	5
Flathead	17	12	29	21	8				Teton	2	2	4	2
Gallatin	10	16	26	7	19				Valley	10	8	18	4
Granite	1	5	6	4	2				Yellowstone	15	16	31	15
Jefferson	2	3	5	3	2				Totals	273	253	526	309
Lewis and Clark	13	13	26	27	1								217
Madison	3	9	12	3	9								

Births reported from Cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants.

Anaconda	18	13	31	12	19	.....			Great Falls	15	20	35	17	18	...
Billings	12	10	22	11	11	.....			Helena	10	10	20	22	22	2
Bozeman	6	8	14	4	10	.....			Livingston	9	7	16	3	13	...
Butte	58	35	93	64	29	.....			Missoula	2	9	11	26	26	15

BIRTHS

Births Reported to the State Board of Health for December, 1908 and comparative birth and death rate in State.

Beaverhead	3	1	4	8	.....	4			Meagher .....	.....	.....	6	6	6	...
Broadwater	1	1	2	2	.....				Missoula	13	6	19	29	10	10
Carbon	17	14	31	17	14	.....			Park	9	7	16	12	4	4
Cascade	26	23	49	28	21	.....			Powell	1	4	5	8	3	3
Choteau	7	3	10	5	5	.....			Ravalli	6	9	15	12	3	3
Custer	3	7	10	7	3	.....			Rosebud	2	2	4	1	3	3
Dawson	4	1	5	7	2	.....			Sanders	1	1	1	1	1	1
Deer Lodge	6	3	9	16	7	.....			Silver Bow	48	52	100	76	24	24
Fergus .....	.....	3	3	3	3	.....			Sweetgrass	3	2	5	5	5	5
Flathead	19	11	30	9	21	.....			Teton	1	3	4	1	3	3
Gallatin	11	11	22	11	11	.....			Valley	5	8	13	9	4	4
Granite	6	3	9	5	4	.....			Yellowstone	8	19	27	13	14	14
Jefferson	5	3	8	4	4	.....			Totals	221	213	434	321	113	113
Lewis and Clark	13	11	24	26	21	2									
Madison	4	5	9	8	1	.....								

Births Reported from Cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants.

Anaconda	6	3	9	9	.....				Great Falls	22	18	40	25	15	...
Billings	5	12	17	7	10	.....			Helena	8	8	16	22	6	6
Bozeman	5	8	13	5	8	.....			Livingston	5	6	11	5	6	6
Butte	31	29	60	49	11	.....			Missoula	13	4	17	20	3	3